

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: ARRIVAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR US AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW

REF: STATE 131708

1. FOLLOWING IS DESCRIPTION COURTESIES EXTENDED IN MOSCOW TO
AMBASSADOR ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE.

2. MAIN VIP FACILITY AT SHEREMETYEVO AIRPORT IS DEPUTIES HALL
(DEPUTATSKIY ZAL) WHICH IS SPACIOUS SECOND FLOOR LOUNGE IN MAIN
TERMINAL BUILDING DEDICATED TO COURTESY SERVICE SENIOR SOVIET AND
FOREIGN OFFICIALS. DEPARTING VIP BAGGAGE IS CHECKED AND TICKET
TAKEN AT SPECIAL DESK NEAR ENTRANCE TO HALL, WHICH GIVES PERSONALIZED
SERVICE. VIPS WAIT IN LOUNGE AND WHEN PLANE READY, HOSTESS ESCORTS
THEM OUT DOOR ON TARMAC SIDE TO BUS WHICH TAKES VIPS, HOSTESS AND
SOMETIMES FAREWELL PARTY MEMBERS TO PLANESIDE. ON ARRIVAL, VIP IS
PICKED UP PLANESIDE BY BUS, TAKEN TO VIP LOUNGE, WHERE PASSPORT
QUICKLY STAMPED AT SPECIAL DESK. VIP MAY PROCEED IMMEDIATELY INTO
TOWN WHILE STAFF SECURES BAGGAGE, WHICH FOR OFFICIAL TRAVELERS MAY BE
TAKEN OUT THROUGH SPECIAL GATE BY ONLY SHOWING DIPLOMATIC VISA.

3. BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE JULY 18, 1974 STILL IN EFFECT, SOVIETS EX-
TENDED USE OF DEPUTIES HALL TO ALL AMBASSADORS ACCREDITED IN
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MOSCOW AND THEIR WIVES FOR ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES. AMBASSADOR

STOESSEL RECEIVES SAME COURTESIES ACCORDED OTHER AMBASSADORS AND VIP EXITING/ARRIVING THROUGH LOUNGE. THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR ADVANCE PERMISSION AND USERS ARE ONLY REQUESTED TO NOTIFY THE DEPUTIES HALL BY PHONE SO STAFF CAN BE READY. PERMISSION FOR USE BY OTHER FOREIGN VIPS MUST BE SPECIFICALLY APPROVED BY MFA AND, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN MODEST IN MAKING SUCH REQUESTS, SOVIETS HAVE BEEN GENERALLY RESPONSIVE TO OUR APPROACHES.

4. DEPUTIES HALL IS ALSO USED BY AMBASSADOR AND MRS. STOESSEL FOR SPECIAL SUPPORT FLIGHTS WHICH LIKE VIRTUALLY ALL COMMERICAL FLIGHTS, LAND AT SHERMETYEVO. FOR LAST SUPPORT FLIGHT EMBASSY REQUESTED PERMISSION FOR AMBASSADOR'S CAR TO MEET HIM PLANESIDE ON TARMAC, BUT SOVIETS REFUSED, NOTING BUS AND DEPUTIES HALL AVAILABLE AS FOR COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS.

5. IN SUM, DEPUTIES HALL IS ROUTINELY AVAILABLE, COST FREE, AND PROVIDES CONVENIENT COURTESY SERVICE, BUT THERE IS NO DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN TREATMENT ACCORDED AMBASSADOR STOESSEL AND THAT GIVEN OTHER AMBASSADORS, SOVIETS AND FOREIGN VIPS ALLOWED TO USE IT.

STOESSEL

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